

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 01930 101500Z  
ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /023 W  
-----101539Z 125297 /50

R 101415Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4027  
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 1930

STATE FOR CU/EE, EUR/SOV; LENINGRAD FOR P&C; USIA FOR IEU

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OEXC UR CSCE  
SUBJECT: RECENT VISIT OF SOVIET TRANSLATORS' DELEGATION AND PROPOSED  
WRITERS' SEMINAR

REF: MOSCOW 1529

1. SUMMARY. DURING LUNCHEON MEETING FEBRUARY 3, MOSCOW  
BASED MEMBERS OF SUBJECT DEL. EXPRESSED TO EMBOFFS THEIR  
APPRECIATION FOR AND GENERAL SATISFACTION WITH VISIT.  
KUDRYAVTSEVA SPOKE AT LENGTH ON PROPOSED WRITERS'  
SEMINAR (SEE BELOW). SEPTELS WILL REPORT ON OTHER  
POINTS COVERED DURING DISCUSSION. END SUMMARY.

2. KUDRYAVTSEVA, TRENYEVA, AND PALIYEVSKIY MET WITH  
CAO AND ACAO/EXCHANGES FOR LUNCH AT UNION OF WRITERS  
FEBRUARY 3. ATMOSPHERE WAS CORDIAL AND LITTLE  
DOUBT WAS LEFT THAT DELEGATION MEMBERS (ESPECIALLY  
PALIYEVSKIY) ENJOYED AND BENEFITED FROM THEIR RECENT  
VISIT. ALL PRESENT EXPRESSED THEIR APPRECIATION TO  
EMB AND DEPT FOR MAKING VISIT POSSIBLE.

3. IN COURSE OF REVIEWING THEIR PROGRAM, KUDRYAVTSEVA  
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MENTIONED THAT SHE HAD NOT MET WITH FRED STARR OF  
KENNAN INSTITUTE DURING EITHER OF GROUP'S STOPS IN  
WASHINGTON. SHE TOLD EMBOFFS SHE HAD BEEN TOLD HE  
WAS "TOO BUSY" TO RECEIVE HER FOR DISCUSSIONS OF PRO-  
POSED WRITERS' SEMINAR, WHICH WAS DESCRIBED IN HIS DEC.  
LETTER TO FEDORENKO.

4. KUDRYAVTSEVA POINTED OUT THAT SHE HAD MET HOWEVER WITH NORMAN COUSINS, WHO TOLD HER THAT HE HAD NOT DISCUSSED PROPOSED SEMINAR IN DETAIL WITH KENNAN INST. REPS OR DEPT. IN SPITE OF FACT THAT STARR-FEDORENKO LETTER PROPOSED HOLDING FIRST SEMINAR IN US, KUDRYAVTSEVA SAID COUSINS GAVE TENTATIVE PERSONAL AGREEMENT TO TRAVEL TO USSR WITH DELEGATION FOR FIRST SEMINAR.

5. SOVIETS NOW HAVE APPARENTLY FOLLOWED UP ON KUDRYAVTSEVA-COUSINS CONVERSATION WITH LETTER INVITING COUSINS TO HEAD A SIX- OR SEVEN-PERSON DELEGATION TO VISIT THE USSR IN APRIL OR MAY FOR A TWO- OR THREE-DAY SEMINAR IN MOSCOW FOLLOWED BY TRAVEL TO OTHER CITIES. ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT HAVE A COPY OF LETTER, WE UNDERSTAND FROM KUDRYAVTSEVA'S REMARKS THAT IT SPEAKS OF A 10-14 DAY VISIT WITH TRAVEL TO LENINGRAD, YEREVAN, TBILISI, OR KIEV. DELEGATION WOULD INCLUDE WRITERS, CRITICS/SCHOLARS, AND EDITOR(S). SEMINAR WOULD BE DEVOTED EITHER TO "THE WRITER, THE READER, AND THE CRITIC" OR "INTERRELATIONS OF RUSSIAN AND AMERICAN LITERATURE." KUDRYAVTSEVA MENTIONED PLAN IS FOR 15-20 SOVIETS ATTEND SEMINAR WITH THE MUCH SMALLER AMERICAN CONTINGENT.

6. CAO WAS INVITED TO JOURNAL OF FOREIGN LIT. FEB 4 FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED SEMINAR WITH DEPUTY EDITOR CHUGUNOV, KUDRYAVTSEVA, AND ZORINA. CHUGUNOV REQUESTED THAT EMB CONVEY TO WASHINGTON JOURNAL'S NEGATIVE RESPONSE TO STARR-FEDORENKO PRO-CONFIDENTIAL

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POSAL TO HOLD FIRST SEMINAR IN US THIS SPRING. CHUGUNOV SAID THAT SINCE PROPOSAL ORIGINATED HERE (SEE 75 MOSCOW 10946), IT WAS SOVIET VIEW THAT FIRST SEMINAR SHOULD BE HELD HERE. SOVIETS ALSO AGAIN EXPRESSED VIEW THAT KENNAN INSTITUTE WAS NOT APPROPRIATE PARTNER FOR JOURNAL OF FOREIGN LIT, WHICH STILL WANTS TO HAVE VISIT UNDER ITS AUSPICES.

7. IN LIGHT OF FACT THAT PROPOSED SEMINAR HAS BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION FOR ABOUT 18 MONTHS, DEPT'S INTEREST IN INVOLVING KENNAN INST, AND EMBASSY'S REPEATED URGINGS THAT KUDRYAVTSEVA MEET WITH STARR DURING VISIT, WE ARE PUZZLED AND TROUBLED BY KUDRYAVTSEVA'S REPORT THAT STARR WOULD NOT SEE HER AND THAT DEPT AND KENNAN INSTITUTE HAVE HAD SO LITTLE CONTACT WITH COUSINS ON PROJECT. REQUEST DEPT CHECK WITH COUSINS AND STARR RE ABOVE AND ADVISE WHETHER SITUATION WAS IN FACT AS KUDRYAVTSEVA DESCRIBED IT. WE ARE TROUBLED THAT AFTER 18 MONTHS WE HAVE COME

FULL CIRCLE TO IDEA THAT SOVIETS HOST FIRST SEMINAR  
AND TO POSITION THAT KENNAN INSTITUTE IS NOT APPROPRIATE PARTNER IN PROPOSED PROJECT. KUDRYAVTSEVA'S VISIT PROVIDED BEST OPPORTUNITY TO BRING SOVIETS ALONG ON BOTH POINTS AND IF SITUATION IS AS KUDRYAVTSEVA PORTRAYS IT, US SIDE BLEW ITS CHANCE. ALSO REQUEST INDICATION OF WHETHER PROGRAM AGENCY WAS FULLY AWARE OF IMPORTANCE OF STARR-KUDRYAVTSEVA CONTACT (SEE, INTER ALIA, PARA 5 OF 76 MOSCOW 16454).

8. WE DO NOT WISH TO SEE DELEGATION OF WRITERS COME TO USSR WITH COUSINS IN APRIL OR MAY, AS KUDRYAVTSEVA PROPOSED. WE SEE THIS ARRANGMENT AS PROVIDING SOVIETS OPPORTUNITY TO TOUT VISIT AT BELGRADE CSCE REVIEW AS EXAMPLE OF THEIR EFFORTS TO IMPROVE CONTACTS IN LITERARY FIELD. WE URGE DEPT TO CONSULT WITH COUSINS AND STARR TO GET THEM TO REPLY SOONEST IN WRITING TO RECENT LETTER TO COUSINS  
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AND TO CHUGUNOV - CAO VERBAL RESPONSE TO STARR-FEDORENKO LETTER. SPECIFICALLY, WE SUGGEST LETTER MAKE CLEAR THAT COUSINS AND KENNAN INST. ARE FULLY COMMITTED TO JOINT APPROACH TO SEMINAR, EXPLAIN CIRCUMSTANCES OF STARR-KUDRYAVTSEVA NON-MEETING, AND POINT OUT THAT WHILE GENERAL IDEA OF SEMINAR MAY HAVE ORIGINATED WITH SOVIETS IT WAS US SIDE THAT MADE FIRST FORMAL CONCRETE PROPOSAL. LETTER MIGHT ALSO USEFULLY TOUCH ON STATUS OF PLANNING FOR SPRING SEMINAR AT KENNAN INST.

9. IF SITUATION IS IN FACT AS KUDRYAVTSEVA DESCRIBED IT, WITH COUSINS UNSURE OF VALUE OF KENNAN ROLE, BELIEVE DEPT SHOULD MAKE CLEAR TO COUSINS THAT DELEGATION VISIT SHOULD NOT TAKE PLACE BEFORE AT LEAST ONE MORE EXCHANGE OF LETTERS AIMED AT GETTING VENUE FOR FIRST SEMINAR MOVED BACK TO US.  
TOON

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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